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SOURCE                      Nan-fang Jih-pao.

# MINISTRY OF FUEL INDUSTRY SETS 1951 QUOTAS

Peiping, 11 August (Hsin-hua) - The Ministry of Fuel Industry of the Central People's government has set its 1951 quotas, which indicate great changes and advances throughout the national industry. A conference met in Peiping from 26 July to 5 August to outline plans and control figures based on present economic and financial conditions and on the developmental outlook of national and other industries for the coming 5 years, with reference also to the experience gained from planning activities during 1950.

Coal production quotas for 1951 will be slightly over 9 percent higher than those of 1950, in line with the principle of gearing production to the market demands in an effort to strike a balance between output and consumption. Distribution of the production figures takes into consideration the future course of state, provincial, municipal, and private mining enterprises. The last three categories were assigned 31.79 percent of the national estimate in 1950; according to control figures for 1951, their quotas will be raised to 38.6 percent.

As far as production rates are concerned, the 1951 requirement for state mines is 30 percent higher, on the average, than that of 1950, and as much as 80 percent higher in certain mining districts. To assure adherence to thermal standards, the 1951 estimate calls for a maximum ash content not exceeding 20 percent. Definite standards have been outlined in the 1951 plans with respect to capital investments toward basic rehabilitation and electrical equipment as well as the degree to which the various mines are actually capable of mechanization.

Besides carrying out the essential points in rehabilitation, the agencies of the electric power industry will strive primarily to improve facilities and to enhance the efficiency of their present equipment. Preliminary estimates call for power output at 91 percent of capacity by the end of 1951. Wastage is to be held at 8 percent below the 1950 level. To promote balanced development of the nation's electric power industry, the 1951 outline gives special consideration to plants having inadequate facilities, in their rehabilitation program, and extends particular support and leadership to strengthen provincial, municipal, and private plants.

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The petroleum industry (only in China proper) will stress prospecting and rehabilitation in 1951. Completion of the first step in reconstruction is anticipated. Present equipment at the Yu-men oil wells is to be improved to raise gasoline production 55.3 percent above 1950; fuel oil output will then diminish by 55.8 percent. Plans call for a reduction of about 20 percent below the 1950 figure in the production cost of gasoline, and of from 6 to 20 percent in other products.

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